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Another Federal Judge Invites the Thunderbolt.

In April, 1903, President Roosevelt delivered at Sioux Falls a speech principally devoted to labor topics. At that time he said:

"In the field of general legislation relating to these subjects the action of Congress is necessarily very limited. Still, there are certain ways in which we can act. Thus the Secretary of the Navy has recommended, with my cordial and hearty approval, the enactment of a strong employers' liability law in the navy yards of the nation. It should be extended to similar branches of the Government work. Again, sometimes such laws can be enacted as an incident to the nation's control over interstate

This seems to have been the first expression of a vague idea on Mr. Roose-VELT's part of using the interstate commerce clause of the Constitution as an agent for enforcing upon railroads everywhere direct liability for loss of life or personal injury to their employees. In his annual message to Congress on December 6, 1904, Mr. Roosevelt went further, and said:

"The wage workers are peculiarly entitled to the protection and encouragement of the law. From the very nature of their occupation railroad men, for instance, are liable to be maimed in doing legitimate work of their profession, unless the railroad companies are required by law to make ample provision for their safety. The Administration has been zealous in enforcing the existing law for this purpose. That law should be amended and strengthened. Wherever the national Government has power there should be a stringent employer's liability law, which should apply to th Government itself where the Government is an employer of labor

" In my message to the Pifty seventh Congress at its second session I urged the passage of an employer's liability law for the District of Columbia. I now renew that recommendation, and further recommend that the Congress appoint a commission to make a comprehensive study of employers lability with the view of extending the provisions of a great and constitutional law to all employ ments within the scope of Federal power."

The recommendation was repeated, in substantially the same form, in the next annual message, on December 5, 1905, with a view to the enactment of a wise and constitutional law covering the whole subject." And last summer such a law as the President had been urging was in fact enacted by Congress. It received his signature on June 11.

This Employers' Liability law of recent nactment provides that not only in the District of Columbia and other United States territory, but also wherever common carriers are engaged in interstate commerce, they shall be liable to any of their employees, or to his representatives in the case of his death, for all damages resulting from negligence on the part of its officers or agents or other employees. or from any defect or insufficiency on the part of its equipment due to the company's negligence in that respect. The fact that the injured or killed employee has himself been guilty of contributory negligence shall not be a bar to recovery in his case; the question whether it shall diminish damages shall be for a jury. Furthermore, no contract, stipulation of immunity or previous acceptance by the employee of insurance or indemnity shall constitute a bar or defence in such an action for recovery; but money actually paid by the company in the way of insurance or indemnity may be set off against the damages claimed.

Such is the law now standing on the statutes. The main question does not concern the abstract justice of a measure enforcing employers' liability, but solely the constitutionality of its enactment as Federal legislation under the interstate commerce power. Day before yesterday, in a case before the United States District Court in Tennessee, a Federal Judge sustained the demurrer filed by the railroad company, and said in his decision: -

sion that the liability of a common carrier to its employee for injuries is interstate commerce or commerce of any character within [the meaning of

the commerce clause of the Constitution. " My conclusion is that Congress is not authorized under the commerce clause of the Constitution of the United States to enact this legislation, for the reason that the relation of interstate common carriers engaged in interstate trade or commerce to their employees, and their liability to them in damages for injuries sustained in their employment as the result of the negligence of any of its officers. agents or employees or by reason of any defects or insufficiency due to its negligence in its cars. engines, appliances, machinery, track, roadbed, way or works, is not commerce within the meaning of the Constitution. But if it were the act does not undertake to regulate this relation or liability, but simply announced by an act of Congress a new law on torts, limited to a special class of those engaged in interstate commerce."

From the circumstances stated above it does not follow that Judge JOHN E. | fares wearing the insignia of their holy McCall of the United States District office. Images and effigies were invis-Court for the Western District of Tennessee is a scoundrel, a fool or a liar. But it does appear that another fearless expounder of the law has rendered from the Federal bench a decision which lends immense additional interest to the coming great debate in the Senate on the Impending report from the Committee on the Judiciary upon Mr. SPOONER's highly significant resolution of December 17, as follows:

" Resolved, That the Committee on the Judiciary be and it hereby is instructed to consider and report to the Senate at its earliest convenient date whether the Congress in the exercise of the power to regulate commerce with foreign nations and among the several States and with the Indian tribes, can, in its opinion, constitutionally prohibis the transportation of commodities from the State

is which they were produced to other States, or to other countries, because the same were produce in whole or in part by child laber."

Control over the products of child labor, and not Federal control over the liability of employers, is the specific question referred by the Spooner resolution to the Senate Committee on the Judiciary. Nevertheless, we are inclined to believe that employers' liability is in that resolution, and a good many other questions of constitutional limitation.

Judge McCALL's decision raises another question concerning the relation of a strenuous Executive to the coordinate departments. Executive influence put the Employers' Liability law through the Legislature. How is it to be with the Judiciary? If this case goes to the higher Federal courts, will it go in company with a deterrent anathema from the White House? Is it to be one of the great questions of extension of Federal authority in the determination of whichto use Secretary Roor's memorable words of warning to the States-"constructions of the Constitution will be found"?

A Pledge Twice Uttered

This remark and this question refer to Governor Hughes's inaugural address of Tuesday, not to his very businesslike message of yesterday:

" Why speak of ' pleasing generalities ' and ' the ommonplaces of inaugural rhetoric' when discuss ing an address which contained this noble passage You have bound me to earnest and honest en deavor in the interest of all the people according to the best of my ability, and that obligation by the help of GoD I shall discharge."

" Could anything be more specific, less con place, more inspiring than that important pledge?

Yes, we should decidedly give the preference, in every one of the three respects mentioned, to this other utterance of Governor HUGHES, on the same occasion, but not in the course of inaugural oratory:

" I do solemnly swear that I will support the Constitution of the United States and the Constitution of the State of New York, and that I will faithfully discharge the duties of the office of Governor to the best of my ability."

Indeed, there may be those to whom it seems that with the official oath formally administered and duly recorded any merely rhetorical repetition of its solemn terms is unnecessary.

Oliver, Leader.

If it is the ambition of the Democratic members of the Assembly to convince the public of their unfitness for legislative responsibility and power, they have begun well. No body of men that acknowledges its willingness to follow the leadership of JIMMIE OLIVER need fear the burden of an overwhelming popular

The Democratic caucus that chose OLIVER as the party's leader in the larger legislative chamber possessed capabilities of stupidity and impudence that even its bitterest critics would not have dared to suggest.

How Mexico Solved the Problem.

Some forty years ago, when BAZAINE'S army had evacuated Mexico and when the pathetic death of MAXIMILIAN at Querétaro had left the destinies of that unhappy and devastated country in the hands of the Republican group headed by JUAREZ, the problem which we loosely describe as that of "Church and State" had, so far as Mexico was concerned, reached its most acute and imminent development. JUAREZ, ESCOBEDO. BARRANDA. DIAZ and the rest of the patriots found themselves charged with the institution of free government on the ruins of the short lived empire.

Their responsibility was immeasurable their resources too meagre for serious consideration. The provinces, once ravaged by war, were now harried by brigands and outlaws. All the visible wealth of the country was collected in the cathedrals, churches, chapels and other religious establishments. Without commerce, manufactures, agriculture or any organized form of productive industry; without means of exercising authority save through the medium of armed force, and equally without the machinery or even the source of legitimate and orderly revenue, the Mexican liberators were confronted with the alternative of surrendering the fruits of their victory to the Church or compelling the Church to surrender its worldly power and opulence to them.

The question was not one of "Church and State": it was one of Church or State. JUAREZ decided in favor of the State. The religious temples and institutions were stripped of their treasures of gold, silver and jewelry, the accumulation of centuries, and with the proceeds the republic's strong box was equipped for the new experiment in representative government. Nothing was done to cripple the necessary functions or impair the proper ceremonies of the Church. JUAREZ and his coadjutors were devout Catholics, one and all, and they proceeded in no spirit of impiety or sacrilege. But the Statels treasury was set upon its legs, to the extent of some \$100,000,000, as estimated by certain highly placed officials in 1875. About the same time a law was enacted prohibiting religious processional celebrations in the public streets, and a few years later the numerous monasteries, convents and other cloisters were depopulated, and to their inmates was given the choice between exile and a participation in the activities of civil life. Priesta were not permitted upon the thoroughible unless one entered the churches for purposes of contemplation. Even where images had been carved out of the stones of residences or other buildings they had to be demolished within a given time. Thus, in their own way, the revolutionists of the European occupation of forty odd years ago solved the problem which stood in the way of their political and social deliverance. Mexico became a State in the highest and truest meaning of the term, and the dispensation of peace, order, prosperity and progress

needed answer to any criticism of the methods resorted to in an hour of poignant and imperative emergency. Has the Church suffered in cons

under which it subsists to-day makes all

age? The Church is more deeply rooted in the affectionate reverence of the Mexican people than it ever was before, and it has recovered the sympathy and loyalty of the ruling class, besides, for it now marches in the front rank of Mexico's procession of exaltation-devoted, patriotic and beneficent.

The Development of Long Island. We have been hearing a good deal ately about the development of Long Island. The proximity of its territory to our doors, the exceptional salubrity of its climate, the attractive scenery of the north and south shores, and the level surface rendering easy the construction of good roads, combine to call attention to the desirability of the Island as a place of residence. Landowners there have become alive to the possibilities in this respect. The Long Island Railroad Company promises improvements in the form of new branches and the betterment of the existing lines. Increased train service is to be provided wherever a real need therefor is shown to exist. The proposed private automobile course s to be laid out on Long Island; and there are a hundred and one other indications which go to sustain the correctness of the assertion heard every day from the lips of Long Islanders, that "the Island is looking up."

The local press is, of course, an agency of no slight importance in promoting the growth of the Island and the welfare of its inhabitants. The wise exploitation of the attractions of a particular district in the newspaper of the locality will often serve to bring that part of Nassau or Suffolk county to the attention of intending buyers from the city and determine their choice as between different portions of the Island for residential purposes.

In order to further the object which these rural journalists have in mind, however, the exercise of a certain amount of discretion is advisable. A newcomer may be greeted in a way to repel others. notwithstanding the best intentions in the world on the part of the writer. A striking example of indiscretion in this respect is furnished by the last number of the Patchogue Advance for the year 1906. The correspondent of that newspaper in a neighboring village on the south side of Long Island, after announcing the sale of seven acres of valuable property on the shore of the Great South Bay to a city physician, continues:

"We understand that the new owner will no build until 1908. Meanwhile he intends to employ the mud digger and also bulkhead the shore line Although the doctor is a young man, he intends o retire and make this his home. That's what we vant-new blood, new people. Suppose some o them don't know who their great-grandfather was what's the odds? A live parvenu is of more account than a dead aristocrat, and a spender cuts more ice than a member of the F. F. V."

"A live parvenu," indeed! Nice language this in which to welcome a new neighbor who has come to spend the remainder of his life with you. For lack of tact this characterization takes the prize. How it tends to arouse a feeling of satisfaction in the breast of the tired professional man who finds himself denominated a parvenu in the community in which he has resolved to spend his last days! What an inducement such a journalistic utterance offers to other city people who might otherwise seek a country home in the same attractive village! "A village of parvenus" would hardly be an alluring feature of a real estate advertisement of shore lands in Suffolk county.

If the editor of the Patchogue Advance really desires to promote the development of Long Island, he will suppress the correspondent who thinks that "a live parvenu is of more account than a dead aristocrat." If the insular press continues to comment on newcomers in this manner, all the efforts of the Long Island Railroad Company to advance the development of Long Island will be like water poured into a sieve.

The Trolley.

The following statements are taken from a short but interesting article in the Van Norden Magazine for January:

" If stretched out in one long chain, the electric rallways of this country would encircle the earth." "To-day there are but two hundred and fifty miles of horse car lines in the United States."

If a third statement is necessary to show the development of electric railway systems it may be found in the following, from the same article:

" More than a thousand people were killed and forty seven thousand injured on these same trolley

lines in the same space of time " (a year). The old horse car may be slow, but it is comparatively harmless. Yet the seriousness of this casualty list is considerably lessened when it is realized that for every person killed or injured 100,000 travelled in safety. For an important percentage of the accidents neither the trolley companies nor their employees were responsible. Many of the sufferers were the victims of their own carelessness, and notwithstanding the greater safety of horsedrawn cars

few would vote for their reappearance. The electric railway system is not yet twenty years old. It is still in its infancy. To many it means only a local means of passenger transportation, a convenience for getting about the streets of a city. This is only a part of its present use and only a very small part of its possibilities. The trolley can go with profit where it would not pay to run a steam railroad. In the country it is a passenger line and a farm wagon. As railroads lead to the building of cities along their route, so the trolley makes farms along its way. The truck farmer, the poultryman and the dairyman no longer need establish themselves in the immediate outskirts of a city. The trolley line rural freight car will travel fifty miles while the loaded farm wagon is covering ten miles, and the farmer need not go to market with

his wares. Probably by the twenty-fifth birthday of the system it will be possible to travel by trolley from Boston to the Mississippi River, and almost, if not quite, to the Missouri. Few people will make the through journey, but almost the entire northern and eastern half of the country is being linked together by a network of lines. Millions of acres

quence of the upheaval of forty years hitherto idle because too far from the market to make profitable cultivation possible will be tilled and planted.

Great is the trolley; and in the days to come it will be immeasurably greater.

Perhaps some time during the present cen tury we may witness the permanent conquest of the air; man has invented wings and he will learn to use them. But this flight into the blue will bring about a new mode of living, new laws, new ethics of the azure -to use NIETZSCHE's famous phrase, a transvaluation of old values. Buffeting the wind in his marvellous machines Novo ADAM must of necessity evolve different codes of action; morals, that is to say manners, cannot help feeling the impact of the freer life. Our very lungs shall have acclimated themselves to the keener, purer air of high latitudes. With all this glorious gliding through a new medium; with the augmented sense of a conquering creature, a biped become angel, mankind will surely revise its earthbound notions of human responsibilities. At first there will be a clash of the old and the new: a wail from the past will assail the ears of them that fear not the heights. Dizzy pride will also lay low its victims. But with the growth of vision will come a securer grip on actualities. Our heaven will seem nearer as we sail cloudward. The sunshine will be brighter, the earth both larger and smaller-larger because we shall be better able to realize its orbic grandeur; smailer because life will no longer be the pessimistic dream of a parochial imagination, but an abode of good will. The nations will have become a unit. The arts will draw a vaster inspiration. ZARA-THUSTRA'S prophecy may be realized. Superman may appear.

But in those piping alleluia times will there be a boss at Albany?

The party column encourages the nomination of inferior candidates for minor offices, who rely for their success upon the strength of other candidates upon the same ticket.—From the Governor's

A reliance that is often justified, but sometimes misplaced. For fuller information on this subject, certain eminent men recently admitted to the noble order of "Ex" should be consulted.

RULE OF THE EARTH. Power of the Inland Agricultural People in World Politics.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN-Sir: HOW ong will continental Europe, Russia and the United States require to recognize the fact that the welt politik is theirs to determinethat the progress of all the world must not be controlled by a single well situated island (or two), as it is now by reason of accident? The recent success of Japan has, so far as we can see, added many an anxiously long day to great armaments. The dominant position of England and Japan will not, judge, be peaceably given up-yet the people who live between rather than on the oceans and who represent the world's agriculture its mines, its strength of every kind, must assert a right of eminent domain to the oceans

efore the world can ever attain its destiny. They will. Even to-day community of interest is con stantly crossing historic inland boundaries. The people of France, Italy and Spain, the home people, recognize their community of interest, and are to an extent not appreciated Americans laying the foundations of political action and religious thought as deep as history, as solid as science, as intuitive as art, as broad as mankind. Sympathetic demonstrations utterly unmindful of geographic boundaries are of daily occurrence and show that the only blood that is thicker than water is that noble blue blood that rises superior to all petty differences of race or

United States and Germany, no matter how much people may heedlessly talk. Bot as for a trial of strength between England and ny or between the United States and Japan, it may come unheralded, like a pall

With a few of my friends given to thinking for ouselves rather than letting propagan-dists perform that office for us, I frequently proposed this idea of the world for all its people, as opposed to its more or less piratical exploitation by the overgrown and congested population of two favorably situated Five years, the time we gave the people to find out where they stood with respect to Japan, has proved abundantly sufficient The broader principle involved will ultimately be fully recognized, its recognition affording the only possible hope of avoiding very great naval expenditures WOODMONT, Conn., January 1.

VIGILANCE IN GRUB STREET.

The Sleepless Peck Discovers an Unprecedented Departure From the Constitution. TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN-Sir: It is time to and the long roll and summon the guardians of the Constitution-Bryan, Bailey of Texas, Baker of Brooklyn. Already the enemy has wrought too much scathe to that plastic and long suffering document. It has been the fortune of Prof. Harry Thurston Peck to reveal the latest and most in

ous attack, the most deadly that has ever been

This gentleman says in an article in the January umber of the Bookman that "a committee of the House of Representatives has passed a bill" prohibiting the use of simplified spelling in Govern-ment publications. Legislation by committee is such a radical change in our form of governmen that this statement coming from any other source might be attributed to vulgar ignorance. But when it is put forth by the polychromatic, many faceted intellect who is fresh from illumining twenty years of the nation's history, it must be taken for true. Even though it were a figment of the imagination, it would be stamped and fixed at once and immutably as a hard fact on the decree of

God save the Republict

The Police at the Door. TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN-Sir: The other day the newspapers told how two policemen arrested a man because he was, with the consent of the owner or his agent, determined on entering a house where it was suspected gambling might be carried on; also that they declared that if he, with the consent of the owner or his agent, entered the house they too would do so against his consent. This incident, to my mind, suggests these questions, which, as a layman, I put in absolute good faith:

Do our laws presume that the entering of a house

where the law may be violated is prima facte evidence of the intention of the entrant to break Is it in itself a violation of the law? If not, why are the police allowed to interfere with or arrest person because he enters such a house with the

In the absence of a warrant or other legal authority for forcible intrusion on private premises, do the laws hold that the owner's consent to the entrance of one individual constitutes a warrant for the entrance of another against his consent? If not, why did the police declare that if one man

entered they also would do so? If the police were legally right (which I do not believe), the sooner we change the laws and stop making ourselves a laughing stock to the world by spouting "liberty," the better. If the police were wrong, what becomes of our boasted intelligence as a community when we do not understand our elementary rights or, understanding them, are indifferent to their violation?

Dishonesty is our natural reproach! Are we stupid as well? NEW YORK, January 1.

An Inclusive Note of Thanks.

To THE EDITOR OF THE SUN-Sir: In a recent edition of THE SUN was published a request for reading matter for the members of Company F. Seventeenth Infantry. The response from the readers of THE SUN has been very liberal and I take this means of expressing the thanks of the men of the company to TRE SUN for publishing the notice and to the people who so generously suppli our wants. It was very kind of them, and I should like to write each contributor a letter of thanks, but cannot, as there are so many of them

BENJAMIN F. LEMASTER, First Sergeant, Co. F. Seventeenth Infants CIEGO DE AVILA, Camaguay, Cuba, December 24,

THE MAN OF IMPULSES.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN-Sir: Referring to my letter printed in your columns to-day, permit me to add a few words in ex-

It has been confidently asserted, and as confidently denied, that our autocrat deplared that if the Senate of the United States should pass a bill in regard to his (Mr. Roose velt's) disbandment of a regiment of the United States without trial by court-martial he would veto the bill, and should the Senate again pass it over his veto by a constitutional majority he will disregard its action and maintain the dismissal. As yet Mr. Roosevelt has not, under his own signature or by public or private letter, de clared his purpose. Perhaps the reason for his unusual reticence is that he so expressed himself as Dr. Jekyll, but that as Mr. Hyde he repudiates the declaration. Mr. Roosevelt has so often declared his opinions and thrown over his friends who supported him that doubt is reasonable.

Should be carry out this menace it could only be in the hope that in case of an impeachment by the Senate he would be sus ained by the people at large. And this would mean revolution. It would not be the first time that there have been threats of marching on Washington."

Probably the Senate would find some way to avoid the trap and avert the catastrophe which would inevitably follow. It may be said that it is hardly worth while to worry about the condition of the bridge till we come to the crossing, but it is as well to be prudent. Perhaps a message or two may give us more light. I find more danger in his impulses than in his intentions.

One great danger to our form of government has already been dissipated; that s the possibility, nay, the probability, that he would receive the nomination of the next Democratio convention. In such case his indorsement by the Republican convention would be a foregone conclusion, and an indefinite prolongation of his term of power a natural sequence. Mr. Roose velt's indiscretions by word and deed have put an end to any fear of such a combination. In fact, he seems to be quite indifferent to what either party thinks of him, pelieving thoroughly that his own personal popularity will carry him along whatever way he may choose to go, or, withou hoice, to drift.

It is distressing to think that the wonderful prosperity the country is now enjoying should be at the mercy of a single stiffnecked individual, though he may be the President. JOHN AUSTIN STEVENS. NEW YORK, January 1.

The Foresight of the Fathers TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN-Sir: It apnears that some of the members of the constitutional convention foresaw the possibility of a President who might assume the power to disband soldiers of the regular army without a trial before any court, military or civil even one who would ask Congress to give him a like power over commissioned office of the army. In the convention, on Saturday, Wilson said: "Despotism comes on mankind in different shapes. Sometimes in in Executive, sometimes in a military one.

On July 24 Gouverneur Morris, speaking n opposition to a long term for the President "Prolong his duration even to fifteen years, will he by any wonderful interposition of Providence cease to be a man? No, h will be unwilling to quit his exaltation; the road to his object through the Constitution will be shut; he will be in possession of the sword, a civil war will ensue, and the comnander of the victorious army, on whichever side, will be the despot of America."

Mr. Gerry was opposed to giving to the President, through Congress, power over the State militia: even "such parts of them as may be employed in the service of the United States." Speaking, August 23, on a repor of the committee of eleven relating to this subject, Mr. Gerry said: "I had as lief let the citizens of Massachusetts be disarmed as to ject them to the general legislature. would be regarded as a system of despotism. Foolish fellows, to fear that we might ever

have a President so "unwilling to quit his exaltation" as to make wicked use of his possession of the sword! EDWARD W. TOWNSEND.

MONTCLAIR, January 1.

Don'ts for Magazine Writers

To THE EDITOR OF THE SUN-Sir: The writer of the letter signed "Lightweight" in a recent issue of THE SUN spoke of what unrecognized eniuses must do to write acceptable she or the monthly magazines, but he did not tell what they must not do. I will endeavor to suppl the editors of various publications. Complaints have been heard in your columns to the effect the

In the first place, never write a sea tale with a shipwreck. The readers of the Blank Magazine do not like to read of death on the ocean. So says Never under any consideration write a good "hot"

business, and say they are all lies. A real love story is never acceptable. It would shock the readers of the Dash Magazine to learn how human beings with red blood in their veins act. Write a love tale suited for the intellect of

dergarten child and a check will reward your efforts. Never by any chance conceive a new plot or idea for a yarn. To win acceptance you must use those that are in their dotage and are easily recognized Editors are afraid to print anything without all the marks of great age. It would startle the muddy

minds of readers—and that would never do.

Lastly, beware what will happen if you write above the head of a cart driver in any way. You are surely doomed to fallure.
But, you say, there is nothing left. What can I

write that will be acceptable? The answer is easy. You must lower your intelligence to write to the level of the ordinary reader, bred on yellow jour nalism, to whom the great names of literature mean nothing. If you can do this your work will be eagerly snapped up, like that of "Lightweight, who boasts that he has no talent or Of course not! It is nearly impossible for any one with refinement to write "stuff" that will appeal those who eagerly await the publication of the Monthly Trashbasket. The best thing, it seems to me, for the man with

genius, is to keep right on turning out the best that is in him. Meanwhile, let "Lightweight" grow NEW YORK, January 2.

Wants to Learn the Business

TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN-Sir: I have had in uneasy longing from childhood to earn my bread by the ink of my pen, but, alas, it has always been too easy for me to find plenty of excuses for not getting into it, even had I the requisite ability, of which I am at most times doubtful Seriously, from boyhood I have had to work very hard to provide for the daily wants, and others

have always been dependent on me, so that I could not "cut loose"; and these pressing wants have pushed me aside from any serious attempt at I have worked through college and am now teaching, but I want something else. Now, won't some of you who are storming the magazines tell

me some way to get at what I want to do? It seems as though every other profession or business could be prepared for in school or office, but he who would write must "go it alone." Some of you, optimists preferred, give me some advice, won't you? KEUKA PARK, January 2.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN-Sir: Dr. McGee, ecturing at Columbia University, said that long ived types bear fewer children. Statistics do not support him.

The long lived races are the Servian, the Irish and the French Canadian. These races have high birth rates. The Servians are sturdy, the Irish arthe most athletic people in the world, and the French Canadians are larger and stronger than their parent stock of a low birth rate in Franc NEW YORK, January 2.

Mrs. Knicker-Did you ever cook for me before?

Bridget-No mum, but Ot held de job wid yes for

"SWEEP DOWN THE WIND!" ome Reflections on Contemporary Meth-

eds of Not Cleaning the City's Streets. TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN-Sir: At the risk of disturbing your well known attitude of optimism in regard to public affairs may humble citizen and taxpayer solicit the aid of your valuable columns in calling attention

the condition of our streets. It is now but a short time since our patriotic ervor was raised to the highest pitch by the announcement that the Mayor, having only the welfare of the city at heart, had deposed the military and medical Street Cleaning Commissioner, and appointed in his stead a naval officer, and one, too, of distinguished nava antecedents, proceeding no doubt on the theory that as this man's ancestors had helped to sweep the sea there would be an inherited endency on the part of their descendant to do likewise by the streets.

Shortly after taking office this distinuished individual issued a single command. To the best of my knowledge he has since remained in silence and obscurity. But that command! With what pathos we now look back at the joy with which it filled us: "Sweep down the wind, men." Lord, Lord, how that ory rang out from the Battery to The Bronx; and why indeed should it not? How it smacks of the salt sea! An order, in truth, to be bellowed through a megaphone from the quarterdaring to trust our inward conviction, "is a man, who, like Van Tromp of old, carries broom at the mast head. Not one of his

man, who, like van from of old, carries broom at the mast head. Not one of his distinguished predecessors in office, not even the great Waring himself, had thought of this bit of tragedy. Sweep down the wind." With renewed hopes we reapplied our wash cloths, changed again our linen, and seized with less indifferent grasp the cake of soap.

But alas! on the morrow, when we sallied forth to study the results of this stirring command, the sole difference to be observed in the individual operations of the recently military and now naval strategists lay in the fact that the cloud of dust which always marks their presence on dry days (and they work on no other), instead of flowing behind them and obscuring their personality as well as that of those in their immediate vicinity (as sepia clouds about the wily cuttlefish, to use an aquatic simile), now mounted upward in front of them, but was distributed with equal impartiality to the eyes, ears, noses and clothing of all who passed that way. On the other hand, the sweeper himself was decidedly benefited and his white uniform to-day bears eloquent testimony to the wisdom of this almost revolutionary procedure.

The same deft but simple twist of the wrist

his white uniform to-day bears eloquent testimony to the wisdom of this almost revolutionary procedure.

The same deft but simple twist of the wrist on the broom handle enables the operator to-day, even when sweeping down the wind, to distribute the dust and dirt all over the street and throughout the circumambient air, so that a watchful observer looking for the pile of debris which one would expect to result from such exertions, like Sister Ann in the story, sees "nothing but a cloud of dust" and hears only the coughs, curses and sneezes of an ungrateful and dirty public.

But of late atmospheric conditions have been of such a nature that not even an imaginary dust heap may be conjured up, and since the gallant tar, as he may now appropriately be termed, cannot command sufficient manual dexterity to fill the air with mud he has long since responded to the call to quarters. There, doubtless, he watches through clouds of tobacco smoke the steadily failing glass, which tells him that further exertion on his part is of no swall; and yet, Mr. Editor, to the uninitiated, the land lubber, so to speak, the present would not seem an unsultable time in which to set to work and actually clean the streets, even if the accumulated mud and filth has to be removed, and not scattered, and not to trust the entire task to thoughtless pedestrians, whose feet are but ill equipped to accomplish it with expedition. It is probable, however, that this suggestion of mine will not be followed. Perhape it smacks overmuch of radicalism; and it may be thought that if the weather does not auggestion of mine will not be followed. Perhaps it smacks overmuch of radicalism: and it may be thought that if the weather does not become sufficiently dry to permit the renewal of dusting operations the pitying snow will cover, for a few hours at least, our civic pigsty, until it in turn is befouled and slowly carted away at so much a cubic yard by overpaid contractors to the river. In the meanwhile we shall have paid with cheerful acquiescence the annual butcher's bill for old and young who have been unable to resist the ravages of pneumonia, grip, meningitis and other germs which follow in the wake of civic sloth and fatten on filth. But let us pray that a slight, very slight, international complication or what not, may at no distant date call to their respective posis of duty all ounemployed Generals, Admirals, diplomats and the like, and that we, momentarily bereft, may at last find compensation in just one plain, undecorated man with a nose for dirt and the willingness and ability to rid ug of it.

New York, January 2.

Medicus.

EATING AND TALKING.

rks Suggested by a Study Henrico-Jacobean Tongue. To the Editor of The Sun-Sir: Every one has heard, time out of mind, that twaddle attributed now to Talleyrand, now to Metternich, "The real object of language is to conceal thought." And every one not imbecile knows that multitudes of human beings employ language in such fashion that one might suspect them of having adopted the dictum of Talleyrand or Metternich were it not that most persons who use obscure language evidently use it simply because they

possess many words and few thoughts The German culinary distinction between the verbs "essen" and "fressen" has its coun terpart in the distinction between the verbs 'talk" and "chatter." To eat, to decently dispose of a proper quantity of food in a proper manner, is a normal human action; to stuff one's belly is worthy only of swin To talk, to give utterance to rational thought in dignified language and with dignified reserve, is a highly human performance: to beich forth words whose number is manifold

the occupants of the monkey cage in a To eat swinishly in private is an infallible To set swinishly in private is an infallible mark of a swinish nature; but so to eat in public is in addition an outrage on those who, witnessing the performance, do not happen to be swinish. To pour out a lot of meaningless words orally is at best evidence of lightmindedness; but to cause to be printed a huge mass of vocables as weak as a spider's web is either idiotic or shifty. as a spider's web is either idiotic or shifty. In either case it is a performance at which no sane person should be required to assist.

Idiocy in writing is apparently assumed at times out of the writer's desire to be considered humorous; just as shiftiness in writing is at times apparently assumed out of the writer's desire to be considered profound

the writer's desire to be considered protokle or even Hegelian.

The foregoing obvious reflections are elicited by a "review" of the literary style of Henry James in which the name of Thackery is mentioned. The writer of the "review"—if I am fortunate enough to grasp its meaning—appears to decide ex cathedra that the greatest of the novellsts, writing in English, is not yet dead.

"Sicut nobis res cordi est, sic de ea frequenter judicamus; nam verum judicium propter privatum amorem faciliter perdimus."

W. R. C.

NEW YORK, January 2. Burden of the Taxpayer.

To the Editor of The Sun-Sir: Any one who has to do with the departments of the city government is 'mpressed with the fact that they are all everloaded with employees. A statement of the number of men who are carried on the city payrolls would open the eyes of our citizens to the glaring, reckless wastefulness that politica inflicts on this city. While the fact that these men are "yours ost obediently" at election time to the administration in power may satisfy the politicians, it does

not satisfy the taxpayer. A business man might suppose that the great increase in the valuation put each year on the taxable property of the city would tend to ease up a bit on the taxpayer's percentage of taxes, but the cunning of the politicians does not let things work that way. On the contrary, with the increase i valuation always goes a proportionate increase in the cost of running the city, and it would be the same if the tax receipts were ten times as much; but what's the use of complaining? So long as titolans have the handling of the immense rev NEW YORK, January 2. JOHN F. BAXTER.

The Joys of Travel. TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN-Sir: Having been let down in the social scale by some of your corre-

apondents, it behooves me to some extent to ex-As a traveller I merely stated facts as they occurred. I haven't the slightest idea whether the fault lies with Boston or New York. All I know is that it took me eight hours to get to Boston The agent at Springfield may be an exceedingly estimable individual. To put it mildly, the staff up there were passive. They either didn't know anything or they didn't want to know anything. Of course, I was an absolute idiot to take that

NEW YORK, January 2. Officeholder's Gratitude in Corea.

From the Corea Daily News. A Corean who was appointed tax collector by the late Minister of Yl Keuntak has determined out of gratitude for this great favor to repair the Minister's summer house at considerable expense.

DEFENCE OF CANADA.

Englishman's Conception of How It Could Be Managed.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN-Sir: G. Baird, replying to my letter in THE SUN dealing with Anglo-American relations endeavors to show that I greatly underestimated America's resources in the event of a struggle with the British and Japanese empires; he also seeks to enlighten me as to the number of men put into the field and their ffectiveness, as well as regarding the money spent in your civil and revolutionary wars would like to inform him that I have studied the history of those wars and that I am well acquainted with the United States and its

Mr. Baird, in ridiculing Canada's ability to withstand the vast hordes from this side of the line, even goes so far as to say that she could not withstand an invasion by the State of New York alone. Certainly, to say the least, that is a wild statement, and causes me as much amusement as a portion of my letter is supposed to have caused him.

I would like to draw Mr. Baird's attention to what happened during the War of 1812. At that time the United States had a population of 3,000,000 and Canada only a little more than 200,000, of which the greater number were composed of French Canadians, British subjects only since 1759. The invasion of Canada was several times attempted, and each time frustrated by the small body of British regulars and Canadian militia. nention this because Mr. Baird himself goes back to the American Revolutionary War in eeking to prove that the raw material of American militia would be more than able to cope with the 500,000 trained troops that I said could be landed in Canada from the other parts of the Empire.

Mr. Baird should remember that the Revo-

said could be landed in Canada from the other parts of the Empire.

Mr. Baird should remember that the Revolutionary and the Boer wars cannot be cited as cases. In the Revolution your milital were fighting on their own ground, and for their independence. This was also the case with the Boers. In an invasion of Canada your forces would be met by a Canadian army of 500,000 or more men, fishting on its own ground and for the defence of its country. Reenforcing this army would be a body from overseas of another 500,000.

If Mr. Baird knew anything of military tactics and strategy he would realize that this force, acting on its own ground and on the defensive, could hold in check an invading army many times its number.

Mr. Baird grows enthusiastic over the resources of the United States and its population of 85,000,000. The resources of the British Empire are also enormous and its population is 400,000,000. But still Mr. Baird should remember that it is quality, not quantity, that counts. The majority of the \$5,000,000 people are no longer Anglo-Saxon. They are made up of colored people, Poles, Slavs, Italiansevery race of Europe. I venture to think, therefore, that an army of a million or more men composed mainly of British stock could if necessary, defend Canada assainst the conglomeration from across the border.

Mr. Baird, in concluding, says that such a conflict would enable Germany to attack England successfully, as she desires to do. I would point out, however, that that is extremely unlikely; the entente cordiale existing between France and England would prevent an attack upon England by Germany. Alhough there is no formal alliance, the British and French Governments have practically entered into a compact to cooperate in the event of a war between either of them and a certain Power. An insight in this purpose was gained during the Algeciras Conference; and at the recent manœuvres in France the British officers present were admitted to the conferences of the General Staff. France could not risk a war with t

NEW YORK, January 2.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN-Sir: Mr. G. B. Baird has read history with rose colored glasses. In the war of the Revolution American invasion of the British failed to subdue the colonists. Given a hostile population and an angry countryside that will soy on the enemy, harass lines of communica tion and withhold food supplies, and the chances

are fifty to one against the invaders. War between the United States and Great Britain s not to be dreamed of, but those persons who think Canada can be swallowed at a gulp are sadly mistaken. It took many months to equip a few thousand men and send them to Cuba, and then the transport service utterly broke down on a ten mile road—the result was chaos. The collapse of Spain's defence at the moment Shafter's army was incapable of moving a step and 600 miles of land still remained unconquered was rather a miracle This is no reflection on the undoubted bravery of the United States army. But all of us who know the actual conditions before Santiago know that if 25,000 Boers had held the land instead of 200,000 poor, stricken, nostalgie conscripts fighting on alien soil, Americans would have had a salutary

lesson. Now the common idea is that a baker's dozen of regiments can go to the uttermost parts of the globe and whip any nation on sight.

A regiment like the Rough Riders would go far, but soon get wiped out by disciplined troops. The American Regulars are very few, but they are the finest soldiers in the world. The National Guard of the big cities, where quick lunch, rush and no age young men, has yet to prove a rod of strength. In the end American resources would probably win in any war, but it would not be the walkover

that the hyperpatriotic jingoes of the day think. NEW YORE, January 2. CANADIA Lord Russell's Confession.

From the London Evening Standard. A story is being told of a pickpocket who, when accused of theft, was touched on hearing that the watch purloined had belonged to his victim's mother, and caused it to be restored. If we were all arrested when appearances are against us many would risk being charged with pecketpicking. Lord Russell of Killowen certainly would not have escaped—did not, in fact. As a young man he went to a theatre, where he was wedged in the crowded pit, to hear a cry raised," My watch is gone was Russell or one of two men between whom he was standing. Russell suggested that they should all go to the box office to be searched. As he led the way it occurred to him that if the man behind were guilty he would try to thrust the watch into his (Russell's) pocket; so he drew the tails of his coat tightly about him. To his horror he felt that

the watch was already there! Luckily, as they approached the box office a detective recognized the man behind Russell as an old thief, and took him into custody. The other two received apologies and were permitted to depart. But that watch burned in Russell's ocket. He could not let an innocent man suffer He walked slowly back to the office and confessed that although he was not the thief he really had the the hateful thing, and drew out-a forgotten snuff

Respect for German Policeman.

From the London Chronicle. Herr Muerbe, a Dresden schoolmaster, on visit ing Halle lately, went up to a policeman, and touch ing his hat, begged in a courteous tone to be di-rected to his destination. The policeman stared at him, and told him that if he desired a reply he must speak more respectfully—bis interrogator must in fact take off his hat. This was too much for Herr Muerbe, who asked the policeman not to be insolent. Legal proceedings followed, and the Court has decided that, while Herr Muerbe was not obliged to take off his hat when addressing a policeman, he must pay a fine of ten marks for using

Women Who Will Gamble, From the South China Post.

The most difficult gambling to keep in check oth in Singapore and Penang is gambling among Stratts born women of all classes from the highest downward. Frequent complaints are received from husbands whose wives have lost heavily. and it is known that there are five lotteries opening more or less daily in Singapore which are almost exclusively supported by "nonias." Education may possibly do something to stop this vice among the Straits-born ladies, but it must be confessed that its effect in that direction on their husbands and brothers is but small.

From the London Daily Chronicl). The first case under the new banana by law of the London County Council came up yesterday, when Rose Day, a well dressed girl, was summoned for throwing a banana skin onto the street, and refusing to pick it up when asked to do so by a con-

stable. Sir David Evans: "You know as well as possible the danger of throwing down orange peel or banana skin. I will not fine you this time. I will rely on

again. You are dismissed." An Example to All.

Jack-Secretary Taft's frank attitude on the nation has been much commended. Bella-Ah, if a girl could only dare to do the same.